

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The abstract has been amended in accordance with U.S. abstract practice.

Figs. 1-4 have been amended to include labels identifying the components of the boxes.

The specification has been amended to include section headings and to provide a more detailed description of the drawings in the brief description of the drawings section. No new matter is believed to be introduced by the amendment. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is warranted.

Claims 2-15 stand rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Staggs (US 6,711,479) in view of Fagan et al. (US 2004/0119638). The Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Fagan's filing date of September 24, 2003, is antedated by the French priority date of the present application, which is March 19, 2003. So as to perfect the Applicants' claim for foreign priority, enclose is an English translation of the French priority application, FR 0303336, with a statement that the translation is accurate. The current claims are supported

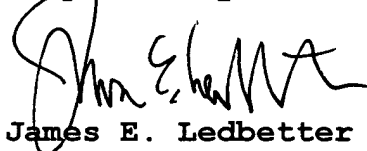
thereby. Accordingly, Fagan is disqualified as a 35 USC 102(e) reference against the claims of the present application.

Therefore, allowance of claims 2-15 is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 9, 2006
JEL/DWW/att

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IN THE DRAWINGS

Proposed changes to Figs. 1-4 are submitted herewith, with a
Submission of Proposed Drawing Changes for Approval.